

What is claimed is:

1. A method for facilitating publish/subscribe communication, comprising:  
receiving a subscription request to receive publications made to one or more event  
names, said subscription request comprising an event expression which may be resolved

5 to match a plurality of different event names;

accessing a set of information pertaining to a publisher, said information  
comprising a particular event name to which said publisher publishes; and

resolving said event expression to determine whether said particular event name  
constitutes a match for said event expression, thereby determining whether said  
10 subscription request is a request to receive one or more publications made to said  
particular event name.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein said event expression comprises one or  
more wildcard indicators.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein resolving said event expression  
comprises:

performing pattern matching between said event expression and said particular  
event name.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein said event expression comprises a  
hierarchical namespace.

5. The method of claim 4, wherein said hierarchical namespace comprises one or more wildcard indicators in one or more hierarchical levels of said hierarchical namespace.

5 6. The method of claim 1, wherein said subscription request comprises a set of information pertaining to a subscriber, and wherein said method further comprises:

in response to a determination that said particular event name constitutes a match for said event expression, providing said set of information pertaining to said subscriber to a communication coordinator associated with said publisher.

10 7. The method of claim 6, further comprising:

accessing a set of information pertaining to a second publisher, said set of information pertaining to said second publisher comprising a second particular event name to which said second publisher publishes;

15 resolving said event expression to determine whether said second particular event name constitutes a match for said event expression, thereby determining whether said subscription request is a request to receive one or more publications made to said second particular event name; and

20 in response to a determination that said second particular event name constitutes a match for said event expression, providing said set of information pertaining to said subscriber to a second communication coordinator associated with said second publisher.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein said first particular event name and said second particular event name are different event names.

9. A method for facilitating publish/subscribe communication, comprising:  
5 receiving a publication announcement indicating a desire to publish to a particular event name;

accessing a set of information pertaining to a subscriber, said information comprising an event expression which may be resolved to match a plurality of different event names; and

10 resolving said event expression to determine whether said particular event name constitutes a match for said event expression, thereby determining whether said subscriber should receive one or more publications made to said particular event name.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein said event expression comprises one or  
15 more wildcard indicators.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein resolving said event expression comprises:

performing pattern matching between said event expression and said particular  
20 event name.

12. The method of claim 9, wherein said event expression comprises a hierarchical namespace.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein said hierarchical namespace comprises one or more wildcard indicators in one or more hierarchical levels of said hierarchical namespace.

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14. The method of claim 9, further comprising:

in response to a determination that said particular event name constitutes a match for said event expression, providing said set of information pertaining to said subscriber to a sender of said publication announcement.

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15. The method of claim 14, further comprising:

receiving a second publication announcement indicating a desire to publish to a second particular event name;

accessing said set of information pertaining to said subscriber;

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resolving said event expression to determine whether said second particular event name constitutes a match for said event expression, thereby determining whether said subscriber should receive one or more publications made to said second particular event name; and

in response to a determination that said second particular event name constitutes a

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match for said event expression, providing said set of information pertaining to said subscriber to a sender of said second publication announcement.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein said first particular event name and said second particular event name are different event names.

17. An apparatus for facilitating publish/subscribe communication,  
5 comprising:

a mechanism for receiving a subscription request to receive publications made to one or more event names, said subscription request comprising an event expression which may be resolved to match a plurality of different event names;

a mechanism for accessing a set of information pertaining to a publisher, said  
10 information comprising a particular event name to which said publisher publishes; and

a mechanism for resolving said event expression to determine whether said particular event name constitutes a match for said event expression, thereby determining whether said subscription request is a request to receive one or more publications made to said particular event name.

15 18. The apparatus of claim 17, wherein said event expression comprises one or more wildcard indicators.

19. The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the mechanism for resolving said  
20 event expression comprises:

a mechanism for performing pattern matching between said event expression and said particular event name.

20. The apparatus of claim 17, wherein said event expression comprises a hierarchical namespace.

21. The apparatus of claim 20, wherein said hierarchical namespace comprises one or more wildcard indicators in one or more hierarchical levels of said hierarchical namespace.

22. The apparatus of claim 17, wherein said subscription request comprises a set of information pertaining to a subscriber, and wherein said apparatus further comprises:

a mechanism for providing, in response to a determination that said particular event name constitutes a match for said event expression, said set of information pertaining to said subscriber to a communication coordinator associated with said publisher.

23. The apparatus of claim 22, further comprising:

a mechanism for accessing a set of information pertaining to a second publisher, said set of information pertaining to said second publisher comprising a second particular event name to which said second publisher publishes;

a mechanism for resolving said event expression to determine whether said second particular event name constitutes a match for said event expression, thereby determining whether said subscription request is a request to receive one or more publications made to said second particular event name; and

a mechanism for providing, in response to a determination that said second particular event name constitutes a match for said event expression, said set of information pertaining to said subscriber to a second communication coordinator associated with said second publisher.

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24. The apparatus of claim 23, wherein said first particular event name and said second particular event name are different event names.

25. An apparatus for facilitating publish/subscribe communication, comprising:

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a mechanism for receiving a publication announcement indicating a desire to publish to a particular event name;

a mechanism for accessing a set of information pertaining to a subscriber, said information comprising an event expression which may be resolved to match a plurality of different event names; and

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a mechanism for resolving said event expression to determine whether said particular event name constitutes a match for said event expression, thereby determining whether said subscriber should receive one or more publications made to said particular event name.

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26. The apparatus of claim 25, wherein said event expression comprises one or more wildcard indicators.

27. The apparatus of claim 26, wherein the mechanism for resolving said event expression comprises:

a mechanism for performing pattern matching between said event expression and said particular event name.

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28. The apparatus of claim 25, wherein said event expression comprises a hierarchical namespace.

29. The apparatus of claim 28, wherein said hierarchical namespace comprises one or more wildcard indicators in one or more hierarchical levels of said hierarchical namespace.

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30. The apparatus of claim 25, further comprising:  
a mechanism for providing, in response to a determination that said particular event name constitutes a match for said event expression, said set of information pertaining to said subscriber to a sender of said publication announcement.

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31. The apparatus of claim 30, further comprising:  
a mechanism for receiving a second publication announcement indicating a desire to publish to a second particular event name;

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a mechanism for accessing said set of information pertaining to said subscriber;  
a mechanism for resolving said event expression to determine whether said second particular event name constitutes a match for said event expression, thereby

determining whether said subscriber should receive one or more publications made to said second particular event name; and

a mechanism for providing, in response to a determination that said second particular event name constitutes a match for said event expression, said set of  
 5 information pertaining to said subscriber to a sender of said second publication announcement.

32. The apparatus of claim 31, wherein said first particular event name and said second particular event name are different event names.

33. A computer readable medium comprising instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to facilitate publish/subscribe communication, said computer readable medium comprising:

instructions for causing one or more processors to receive a subscription request  
 15 to receive publications made to one or more event names, said subscription request comprising an event expression which may be resolved to match a plurality of different event names;

instructions for causing one or more processors to access a set of information pertaining to a publisher, said information comprising a particular event name to which  
 20 said publisher publishes; and

instructions for causing one or more processors to resolve said event expression to determine whether said particular event name constitutes a match for said event

expression, thereby determining whether said subscription request is a request to receive one or more publications made to said particular event name.

34. The computer readable medium of claim 33, wherein said event  
5 expression comprises one or more wildcard indicators.

35. The computer readable medium of claim 34, wherein the instructions for causing one or more processors to resolve said event expression comprises:

instructions for causing one or more processors to perform pattern matching  
10 between said event expression and said particular event name.

36. The computer readable medium of claim 33, wherein said event  
expression comprises a hierarchical namespace.

37. The computer readable medium of claim 36, wherein said hierarchical  
15 namespace comprises one or more wildcard indicators in one or more hierarchical levels of said hierarchical namespace.

38. The computer readable medium of claim 33, wherein said subscription  
20 request comprises a set of information pertaining to a subscriber, and wherein said computer readable medium further comprises:

instructions for causing one or more processors to provide, in response to a determination that said particular event name constitutes a match for said event

expression, said set of information pertaining to said subscriber to a communication coordinator associated with said publisher.

39. The computer readable medium of claim 38, further comprising:

5 instructions for causing one or more processors to access a set of information pertaining to a second publisher, said set of information pertaining to said second publisher comprising a second particular event name to which said second publisher publishes;

10 instructions for causing one or more processors to resolve said event expression to determine whether said second particular event name constitutes a match for said event expression, thereby determining whether said subscription request is a request to receive one or more publications made to said second particular event name; and

15 instructions for causing one or more processors to provide, in response to a determination that said second particular event name constitutes a match for said event expression, said set of information pertaining to said subscriber to a second communication coordinator associated with said second publisher.

40. The computer readable medium of claim 39, wherein said first particular event name and said second particular event name are different event names.

20 41. A computer readable medium comprising instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to facilitate publish/subscribe communication, said computer readable medium comprising:

instructions for causing one or more processors to receive a publication  
announcement indicating a desire to publish to a particular event name;

instructions for causing one or more processors to access a set of information  
pertaining to a subscriber, said information comprising an event expression which may be  
5 resolved to match a plurality of different event names; and

instructions for causing one or more processors to resolve said event expression to  
determine whether said particular event name constitutes a match for said event  
expression, thereby determining whether said subscriber should receive one or more  
publications made to said particular event name.

10 42. The computer readable medium of claim 41, wherein said event  
expression comprises one or more wildcard indicators.

15 43. The computer readable medium of claim 42, wherein the instructions for  
causing one or more processors to resolve said event expression comprises:  
instructions for causing one or more processors to perform pattern matching  
between said event expression and said particular event name.

20 44. The computer readable medium of claim 41, wherein said event  
expression comprises a hierarchical namespace.

45. The computer readable medium of claim 44, wherein said hierarchical namespace comprises one or more wildcard indicators in one or more hierarchical levels of said hierarchical namespace.

5 46. The computer readable medium of claim 41, further comprising:  
instructions for causing one or more processors to provide, in response to a determination that said particular event name constitutes a match for said event expression, said set of information pertaining to said subscriber to a sender of said publication announcement.

10 47. The computer readable medium of claim 46, further comprising:  
instructions for causing one or more processors to receive a second publication announcement indicating a desire to publish to a second particular event name;  
instructions for causing one or more processors to access said set of information  
15 pertaining to said subscriber;  
instructions for causing one or more processors to resolve said event expression to determine whether said second particular event name constitutes a match for said event expression, thereby determining whether said subscriber should receive one or more publications made to said second particular event name; and

20 instructions for causing one or more processors to provide, in response to a determination that said second particular event name constitutes a match for said event expression, said set of information pertaining to said subscriber to a sender of said second publication announcement.

48. The computer readable medium of claim 47, wherein said first particular event name and said second particular event name are different event names.

5 49. A method for subscribing to receive one or more publications made to one or more event names, comprising:

generating a subscription request, said request comprising an event expression which may be resolved to match a plurality of different event names; and sending said subscription request to a subscription management mechanism.

10 50. The method of claim 49, wherein said event expression comprises one or more wildcard indicators.

15 51. The method of claim 49, wherein said event expression comprises a hierarchical namespace.

20 52. The method of claim 51, wherein said hierarchical namespace comprises one or more wildcard indicators in one or more hierarchical levels of said hierarchical namespace.

53. An apparatus for subscribing to receive one or more publications made to one or more event names, comprising:

a mechanism for generating a subscription request, said request comprising an event expression which may be resolved to match a plurality of different event names; and

a mechanism for sending said subscription request to a subscription management mechanism.

54. The apparatus of claim 53, wherein said event expression comprises one or more wildcard indicators.

55. The apparatus of claim 53, wherein said event expression comprises a hierarchical namespace.

56. The apparatus of claim 55, wherein said hierarchical namespace comprises one or more wildcard indicators in one or more hierarchical levels of said hierarchical namespace.

57. A computer readable medium comprising instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to subscribe to receive one or more publications made to one or more event names, said computer readable medium comprising:

instructions for causing one or more processors to generate a subscription request, said request comprising an event expression which may be resolved to match a plurality of different event names; and

instructions for causing one or more processors to send said subscription request to a subscription management mechanism.

58. The computer readable medium of claim 57, wherein said event  
5 expression comprises one or more wildcard indicators.

59. The computer readable medium of claim 57, wherein said event  
expression comprises a hierarchical namespace.

10 60. The computer readable medium of claim 59, wherein said hierarchical  
namespace comprises one or more wildcard indicators in one or more hierarchical levels  
of said hierarchical namespace.